

Scandinavian News

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FEBRUARY 86

The Ships of the Vikings

By Ole Crumlin-Pedersen

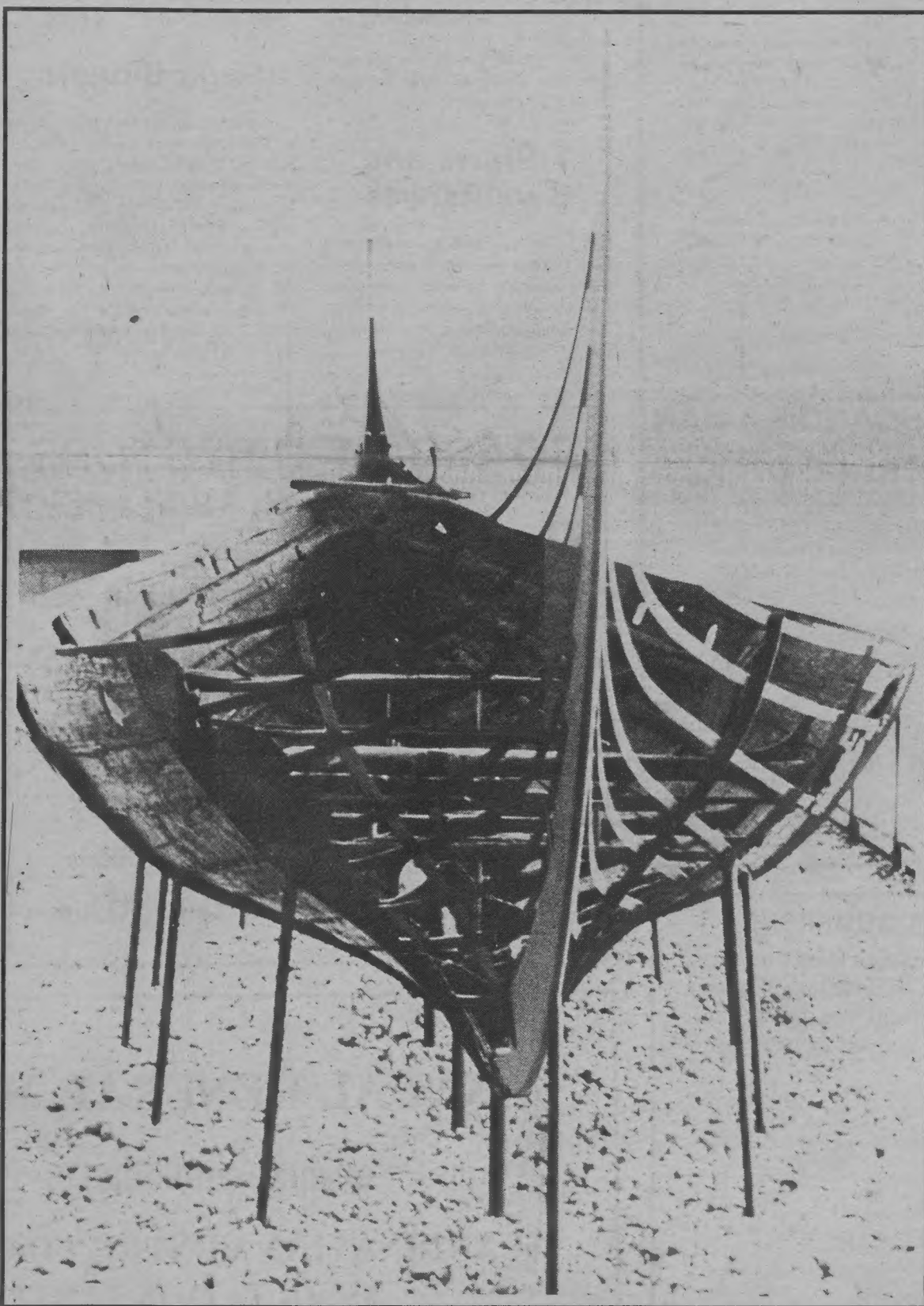
Director of the Viking Ship Hall,
Roskilde

Our picture of the culture patterns and life styles of prehistory, naturally enough, is strongly coloured by the material relics of the past that have come down to us. We have a sharper picture of cultures that have left large buildings or rich burial deposits than we have of others from which only insignificant remains have been preserved. This fixation on discovered 'treasure' means that we sometimes get a very one-sided picture of the cultures we study. As a rule, it is the burial custom of the socially upper class which dominates the picture, and we may well draw too sweeping conclusions if we forget this point of departure. If our remote descendants were to know only the present Danish royal yacht, the *Dannebrog*, as an example of twentieth-century ship types, they would be very badly informed about our ferry services, container and oil cargo traffic, etc.

When a hundred years ago, in 1880, the big Viking-age burial mound was excavated at Gokstad in Norway, and a very well-preserved 'royal' ship dating from about 900 A.D. was found there, a picture was created of a 'Viking' ship that has persisted ever since as the standard type of very, nearly every class of vessel right through the Viking period. In standard works on the Vikings, even most recent ones, fleets of Viking ships are represented as being built and sailed for war or trading expeditions, even though a number of ship finds in this century have shown that the design of the Gokstad ship is not characteristic of the 'everyday' war or merchant ships of the time.

We can say today for certain that even by the beginning of the Viking period, in about 800 A.D., special types of merchant ships had been developed which differ from the royal burial ships of Gokstad and Oseberg in significant respects, and that the range of ship types two

In Denmark it is above all the Skuldelev find that has enlarged the picture of the Vikings as shipbuilders and seafarers. Five ships and a fishing vessel, built at the end of the Viking period and sunk in Roskilde Fjord in the first half of the eleventh century to defend the town of Roskilde.



hundred years later, near the end of the Viking period, was very wide and varied, with quite marked differences between vessels built for different purposes, and indeed built for the same purposes in different parts of Scandinavia.

Above all, it is the Skuldelev find that has enlarged the picture of the Vikings as

shipbuilders and seafarers. It was an old tradition among the fishermen of Roskilde Fjord that the barrier of ships' timbers and stones that could be seen in the Peberrende, one of the narrow channels of the fjord on the long passage to Roskilde, was the remains of a ship sunk by Danish queen Margrethe I (c. 1400)

to defend the town of Roskilde from attack.

In the years 1957-59, the barrier was charted under the direction of Olaf Olsen and Ole Crumlin-Pederson of the Danish National Museum. It was the first Danish exploration of the sea-bed in which the potentialities of diving by frogmen were tried out in ar-

cheological research, and it showed that the barrier consisted not of one ship but a whole little fleet of ships, and that they were far older than Margrethe, dating from about 1000 A.D.

The ships constituted stone-filled elements of the barrier, and the stones had crushed many of their planks to pieces against the original bed of the channel. It would be too risky to raise the ships by divers. So in 1962 a sheet piling was constructed instead, allowing the whole barrier to be drained and the wrecks to be salvaged bit by bit.

The barrier was found to contain five wrecks, which are now exhibited in the Viking Ship Hall at Roskilde, a large modern display building erected in 1986 and fitted out as a functioning workshop where visitors can watch the work of restoring the Viking ships, and as the headquarters of the Institute of Marine Archaeology of the Danish National Museum, responsible for exploring other wrecks, barriers, etc. in Denmark.

The five Skuldelev ships proved to be a very lucky assortment, representing five different types of vessel built at various places in Scandinavia at the end of the Viking period, and sunk in Roskilde Fjord in the first half of the eleventh century to defend the town of Roskilde.

Of the five ships, two are warships, a small one and a large one, two are merchant ships, again a small one and a large one, and one is probably a fishing vessel. The difference between the warships and the merchant vessels is clearly apparent from their layout and proportions, the warships being long and narrow, with the deck running from fore to aft and with holes for oars along the entire side of the ship, while the merchant ships were considerably broader and higher in proportion to their length and had decks and oar holes only fore and aft, so allowing space for an open hold amidships.

The biggest of the Skuldelev ships is the large warship, the 'long ship', which was

Continued on page 3

SCANDINAVIAN NEWS

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Edmonton Icelandic Society

Thorrablot

Don't forget to mark Friday, February 7, 1986 for Thorrablot. It will be held once again at the palatial Chateau Lacombe. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. for cocktails, dinner and entertainment from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., the dancing will continue until 1:00 a.m. and will be to the Echoes.

Tickets will be \$25.00/person and may be purchased from any member of the Icelandic Society Executive. The deadline for ticket sales will be February 5 with no refunds after that date.

For anyone wishing to stay overnight at the Chateau Lacombe, there are special room rates available at \$55.00 per room, single or double. To reserve a room, call the reservation desk and ask for the special rate. (428-6611)

NOTE: Members of the Executive and their phone numbers are listed later in this article.

T-Shirts and Sweatshirts

A variety of sizes are available in both t-shirts and sweatshirts. They make excellent gifts for family and friends. The cost varies according to size. Contact Brian Sveinbjornson if you are interested at 487-3329.

Icelandic Lessons

The first class of the Icelandic lessons will be held on Monday, February 3, 1986 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., in Rm W320, Law Centre, University of Alberta. The day and time of the week will be confirmed at this meeting. The instructor will be Dr. Christopher Hale of the Germanic Languages Department at the U of A.

Cost is \$50.00 per student plus materials, which will be available in class. Minimum registration is eight students.

Please pay by cheque made out to the Edmonton Icelandic Society (Icelandic Lessons)
c/o 7870 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5H 3R9

Saga Singers

In preparation for their trip to Gimli in 1986, the saga singers have applied for a cultural grant and a bingo license to assist with travelling costs. In addition to singing on Saturday night at Islendingadagurinn, they will also perform at Wynyard enroute. Other performances are being arranged. All singers are encouraged to join the choir which meets Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 at Allison King's, 17316-53 Avenue, ph. 487-8670

Scandinavian Heritage Festival

The following Icelandic Society members will represent us in the Scandinavian Heritage Society: Brian Sveinbjornson and Gunnar Thorvaldson will sit on the board, while Brad Gerrand, Shirley Lundberg, Curtis Halldorson, and Linda Ross will be members at large.

Icelandic Charter 1986

This summer there will be two charters to Iceland. The first one will leave Winnipeg on July 14 and return July 29 (two weeks). The second one will leave Winnipeg on July 31 and return August 21 (three weeks). The price for adults is \$699.00 Canadian, children 2 to 11 \$599.00 and infants free. The departure tax is \$15.00 Canadian, \$15.00 Icelandic and your cancellation insurance if you wish to purchase that. If you are interested, please call Viking Travel, Gimli, Manitoba (204) 642-5114.

Future Newsletters

If you have news, information, or any other items which would be of interest for inclusion in future newsletters, please call Pete Peterson 439-5302 or write to 11014-80 Avenue, Edmonton, T6G 0R3.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF SHAREHOLDERS OF THE

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Vikings

Continued from Page 1

originally 29-30 meters long. It will have been a fantastically supple and fast vessel, capable of accommodating 50-100 fighting men - perhaps one of the ships with which Sven Forkbeard subjugated England in 1013-14. Unfortunately, this ship lay high up in the barrier and has suffered especially from ice drift and other disturbances, so that only about a quarter of the original planking has survived.

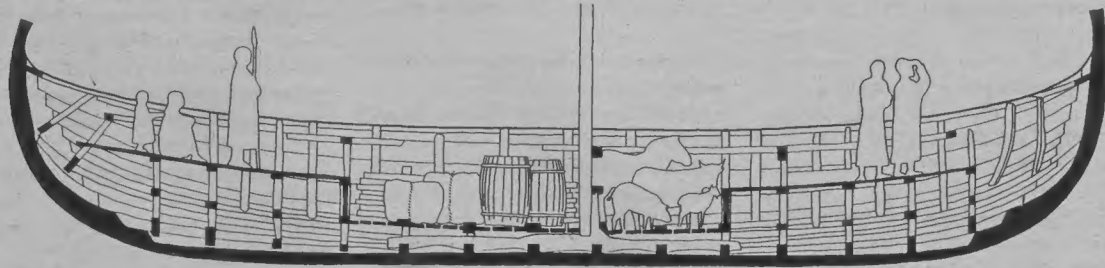
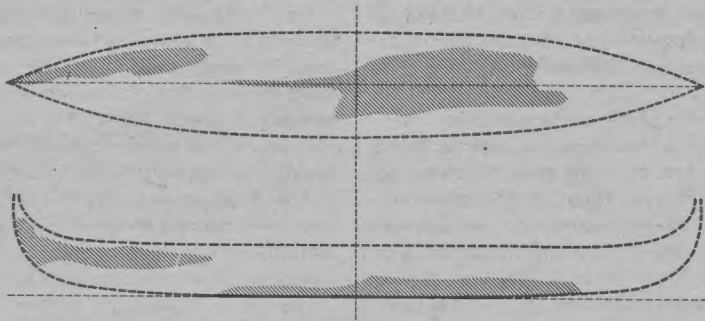
About half of the 'small warship' has survived, comprising the bottom and most of one side. This vessel was 17.4 meters long, 2.6 m wide and 1.1 m high amidships from keel to gunwale. It carried a mast and sail as well as 12 oars at each side, and thus will have had a crew of 25-30. The ship is of oak, except for the top planks of the side which are ash, and were

5-9, a sail spread of about 40 square meters and a cargo capacity of some 5 tons, and must have been a well-built and well navigable ship for maritime trade between Denmark and the Baltic and North Sea regions.

The 'large merchant ship' is not only bigger but also more strongly and capaciously built than the small merchant ship. It measures 16.3 m by 4.5 m by 2.0 m and was originally constructed from deal planks, with oak, lime and deal ribs. After a grounding, some of

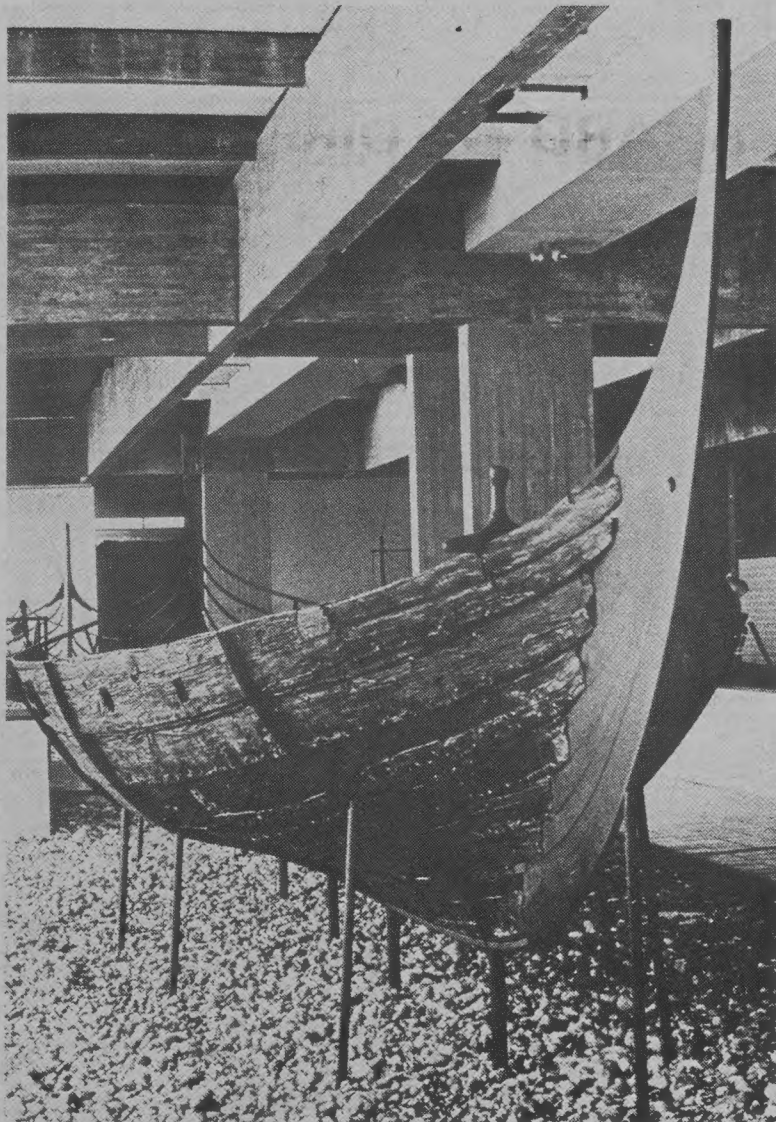
the bottom planks were replaced with oak ones. This combination of woods shows that the ship must have been built outside of the present Danish territory as softwoods did not occur in contemporary Danish forests, and indeed there is a lot to suggest that the vessel was built in west or south Norway, and that it was a *knarr*, the type of ship with which the Scandinavians crossed the Atlantic to settle Greenland and explore the country called Vineland, further west.

Longitudinal section of a longship. Length 29.0 metres. Width 3.5 - 4.0 metres. The deep-sea cargo carrier, the Knarr, is represented in the Skuldelev 1 ship.

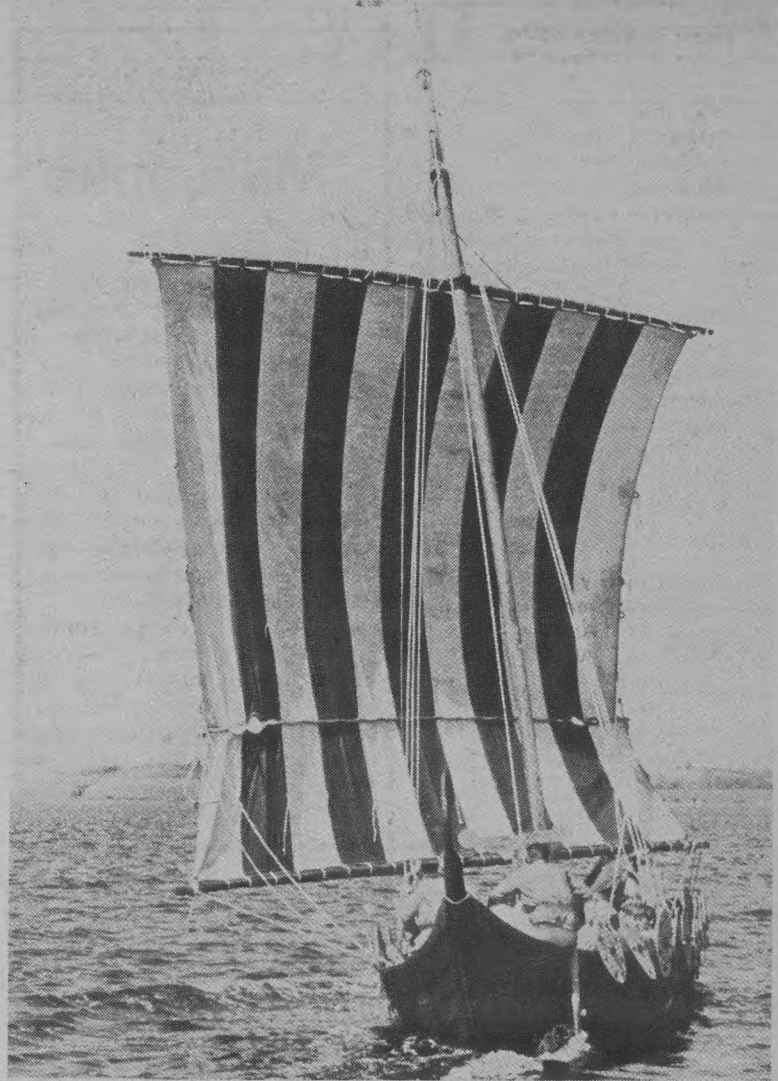


re-used from another ship - an indication that it must of been difficult even then to produce an adequate supply of good forest timber for shipbuilding. This ship is a close parallel to the burial ship from the tenth-century chieftan's grave excavated in 1935 at Ladby in Funen. Danish boy scouts have built several replicas of these ships and demonstrated that they are well adapted to navigation all over Danish inland waters.

The 'small merchant ship' in its details is very similar to the small warship, and there is reason to suppose that together they represent the local building tradition of Roskilde Fjord. But the merchant vessel's proportions are quite different from the warship's, the length being only 13.8 m, the width 3.4 m and the height amidships 1.4 m - a more capacious and well-proportioned hull. This ship is very well preserved - about 75 per cent - and in particular the elegant stem, which has survived right to the very tip, serves to illustrate the high level of shipbuilding at that time. The small merchant ship will probably have a crew of



The Skuldelev 5 warship built as a full-scale replica by Danish boy scouts



The merchant ship



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Vasa Lodge Skandia

By Kaye Kerr

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a happy holiday season; the weather co-operated beautifully. At the last meeting the following officers were elected for 1986:

Chairman — Doreen Nyroos
Vice-Chairman — Elwood Johnson
Recording Secretary — Fae Doty
Assistant Recording Secretary — Leslie Morris
Financial Secretary — Ken Banks
Assistant Financial Secretary — Charlotte Samuelson
Treasurer — Linnea Lodge

The next Lodge meeting will be at the Orange Hall on January 13, 1986 at 7:30 p.m.

Evelyn Johnson has been holidaying in the sunny South. Hope you had a good holiday.

Marbacka - Home of Selma Lagerlof

By Verna Larson

Selma Lagerlof was born on November 20, 1858, at Marbacka Manor in a remote part of Varmland Province in Central Sweden.

1858 was a year when Dickens and Tennyson, Dumas and Balzac were the lions of literature, and Darwin was a year away from publishing his "Origin of Species". But since Selma Lagerlof lived to a ripe old age she came to belong to our time.

Her parents, Lieutenant Erik Gustaf Lagerlof and Louise Wallroth, were descendants of old Varmland families. Many members of the family were clergymen, others were officers or businessmen. The Lagerlofs were connected by marriage with quite a few other prominent Varmland families, most of them famed for their

literary talents. The eminent poets, Tegner, Geijer and Froding, were related in one way or another to the Lagerlofs. In one of her own works, Selma Lagerlof writes, "We were aware that we were offshoots of an old tree that had grown big long before our time." Much of what she related in her adult years about Varmland and its people were memories of stories heard and impressions absorbed as a child from her parents or from visitors to Marbacka.

Nor was Marbacka Manor, where Selma Lagerlof lived until her 24th year, lacking in traditions. Originally a chalet, it became a farm, and later, at the beginning of the 18th century, a parsonage. Ownership passed over to the Lagerlofs at the start of the 19th century by virtue of marriage.

The Marbacka in which Selma Lagerlof spent her youth was an unpretentious place with a low, red-painted house of one storey that was built about 1800 by a curate, Erik Wennervik. Shortly after the death of Lieutenant Lagerlof in 1885 the family lost title to Marbacka, but his daughter always cherished the dream of buying it back — a dream that spurred much of her writing. Thanks to her major literary triumphs, among them the Story of Gosta Berling (1891), Jerusalem (1901-02) and the Adventures of Nils Holgersson (1906-07) she achieved her goal; after many years away in Stockholm, Landskrona and Falun, she could once again call Marbacka her home in 1907.

In 1909 she received the Nobel prize in Literature. She began to use the manor as a summer residence after it had been partially modernized. Much of the old Marbacka is still visible amidst the new restylings, and though the old Marbacka is changed in appearance, the old manor still exists in Selma Lagerlof's vivid descriptions of her childhood home. These books are called "Marbacka" and "A

Child's Memoirs".

Her best-known work comes to mind at the very entrance to the manor house. Standing on the newspaper shelf in the hall is a wild goose of the sort that carried Nils Holgersson on his Journey over Sweden.

Selma Lagerlof during her lifetime had volumes of correspondence. This collection of letters has been deposited in the Royal Library in Stockholm, and in accordance with Selma Lagerlof's will, is not to be made public until 1990, 50 years after her death.

Also, according to her will, Marbacka is to be kept as a family manor and memorial, and the place now looks exactly as it did on the day of her death, March 16, 1940. It was opened to the public in 1942, and since then more than one million visitors have come to see the setting that gave Selma Lagerlof the greater part of her literary strength and inspiration. To visit Marbacka is to find increased understanding of her life and accomplishments, and to be encouraged to read her writings anew.

Significant dates in the life of Selma Lagerlof:

1858: Selma Lagerlof was born at Marbacka on November 20

1882: Left home for Stockholm to learn teaching profession

1885-95: Employed at girl's school in Landskrona

1891: "The Story of Gosta Berling" published

1894-1909: "Invisible Links", "The Miracles of Antichrist", etc.

1897-1909: Period of residence in Falun

1901-02: "Jerusalem" written

1904: "Herr arnes penningar" and "Kristuslegender"

1906-07: "The Adventures of Nils"

1907: Marbacka repurchased and used as a summer house

1909: Received Nobel prize in Literature

1911-12: "Liljecronas hem", "Korkarlen", etc.

1914: Elected the first woman member of the Swedish Academy

1921-3: Present Marbacka built

1922-32: "Lowenskold cycle" and other stories of Varmland. Also published: "Marbacka", "A Child's Memoirs", "The Diary of Selma Lagerlof", etc.

1940: Death of Selma Lagerlof. Her grave is in the cemetery of Ostra Amtervik Church.

Many are the Strong Among the Strangers

Canadian Songs of Immigration

By Ellen Karp, National Museum of Man Mercury Series, Canadian Centre for Folk Culture Studies, Paper No. 50. National Museum of Man; Ottawa, 1984. 138 pages.

Canada has a rich folk music heritage created in large measure by immigrants from many countries who expresses their feelings about their new environment in song. This Museum of Man paper documents some of the rich tradition presenting 34 songs of different ethnocultural groups. The songs are written in their original languages, with musical notation, and are also presented in translation. Interesting notes about the origins of the songs are also included.

The reader of this fascinating collection will find songs that evoke the emotions of early immigrants — their sorrow at leaving friends and family, their laments over arduous of voyage and the difficulties of homesteading, their eagerness to enjoy life in a new land. There are also more recent compositions reflecting new moods and modern times.

Most of the songs in the collection were drawn from original field recordings made across Canada by various folklore researchers during the last three decades. The book is illustrated with interesting archival photos.

For more information write to: Canadian Centre for Folk Culture Studies, Block 400, Asticou Centre, 241 Cite des jeunes Blvd., Hull, Quebec K1A 0M8

New Danish Courses

Will start Tuesday, January 28 for second year students and Thursday, January 30 for beginners. Both courses are at Bonnie Doon High School from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. They are arranged by Continuing Education where anybody interested can register. The phone number is 426-3280. The teacher is Agnes Jelhof Jensen.



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Sons of Norway

Make Reservations Now!

This year The Sons of Norway Winter Games will be held Feb. 21-23 at Grande Prairie with Northern Lights Lodge #493 hosting.

Solglyt members are urged to again attend, participate and bring back honour to the Lodge. Those who plan to attend should contact the Grande Prairie Motor Inn for accommodation (call toll free 1-800-661-6529 — ask for Joyce or Lynda). Rates to January 15th for 50 reserved rooms is \$27.00 each per night.

Bus arrangements will be set up by Peter Finstad, Sports Director — it is expected to leave early in the afternoon from Edmonton. Contact Peter Finstad giving your room needs and sport activity interest. Rate for the

event is \$35.00 covering banquets, meals. If not participating in a sports event, the charge is \$32.00. There is Family Bowling and Curling events will be at Clearmont and Sexsmith. Skiing will be held in the immediate area (weather conditions prevailing); Norwegian Whist will be held at the Motor Inn.

Each Lodge has made this event most exciting and hospitable — a friendly and enjoyable occasion. Competition is getting stronger as years go by. The coveted trophies are becoming more of an honour to win. Solglyt members have always kept the name of the lodge synonymous with sportsmanship, and we know this year will be no exception.

4th District Convention

By Bob Burt

The 4th District Convention will be held this year at Fargo N.D. June 25-28th, with lodge Kringen #25 hosting the event.

The latest law passed by International Council states in part: All Sons of Norway operations in every State, Province and Norway will abide by the new ruling that only Insurance members may be delegates or alternates in the District Convention or International Conventions. Sons of Norway members without S/N Insurance coverage may not become

members or Directors in either the International Lodge or hold offices of Directors or Board-elected Members in the District Lodges.

This latest eventuality will sorely curtail our representation in either Convention. It is felt that this ruling definitely affects our Lodge and its members, to say nothing of its representation.

The clincher is that a member may attend the convention if he or she applies for Insurance now, and is accepted prior to June 1st.

Christmas Party

By Bob Burt

Close to 100 members and families were present at St. Augustana Lutheran Church on Dec. 15th to take part in the Sons of Norway Solglyt Christmas Party. The hall was decorated by Anny Marie Waldmo and tables were brightly decorated and piled with food for the Pot Luck Supper.

The program included dancing around the Christmas Tree and singing. There were several concert performances; several of the plays included the young members and were thoroughly enjoyed. Another play entitled "The Town that Forgot it was Christmas" written by Bea Huser, will

long be remembered. The play involving Frosty the Snowman (Harold Hale), included the song "Frosty the Snowman". Michelle and Anna Marit Johnson sang "Silent Night" in English, French and Norwegian. The play with Santa (Anders Nyhus) and Scrooge (James Robinson) was most enjoyable.

The gathering was treated to a Pot Luck Supper, and candy and oranges were given out by Santa and his helpers. The Rice Pudding Almond was won by Camilla Cockburn, who received the prize. Numerous door prizes were given. The afternoon was a memorable one, and all seemed to enjoy the festivities.

From the Cultural Department

By Astrid Hope, Cultural Director

On November 26th Elmwood Lodge Seniors were entertained by the "Freeloaders"; they could have played all night, according to the residents. Wally Broen and Harry Huser represented the group.

The Provincial Museum and Archives sponsored "Our Christmas Salute to Cultures of Alberta" by highlighting different ethnic Yuletide celebrations during the month of December and the beginning of January. (Dutch, German, French, English, Italian and Ukrainian).

Linnea Lodge had a fine Scandinavian Candle display in the foyer. Scandinavian Christmas was celebrated December 8th with a special menu in the Dining Room and special entertainment throughout the building. The "Freeloaders" (Wally Broen, Harry Huser, Odd Espeland, Gary Johnson, Astrid Hope) played Christmas carols to huge audiences on the 2nd floor before and after the special stage program starting at 2 p.m. The program featured the "Icelandic Saga Singers", "Finnish Dancers", "Sons of Norway Valhalla Dancers", and the "Swedish St. Lucia Pageant". It was very colourful and entertaining.

The "Freeloaders" entertained at Jubilee Lodge on December 21st. Del Melsness (in town from Courtenay, B.C., to celebrate Christmas with his daughter Darlene and family) joined

Wally Broen, Harry Huser and Astrid Hope and guest, Karl Anderson from Grande Prairie playing the guitar. Getting more and more into the festive mood, the Seniors joined in group carolling. After the performance it was great to overhear, "They're the best". The "Freeloaders" and their wives had a get-together at the Broen's afterwards.

On December 5th, Astrid Hope was invited to Strathearn Junior High School's 2nd annual Heritage Festival. This is a community project where parents bring in displays and food representative of their country of ethnic origin or from their travels etc. Astrid had a display of Norwegian artifacts along with Barbados, Guatemala, Quebec, Peru, Ukraine and Russia. There was a gigantic smorg of such foods as "Kibi" from Syria, "Fetush" from Lebanon, "Bannock and Moose Meal" from Canada, "Pepparkaker" from Norway, "Swedish Meatballs" from Sweden, etc. The program later presented Norman Kyle and his Scottish Bagpipes, (he explained how he made them himself), Native, Russian and Israeli Dances done by Strathearn students themselves and Polish and Arabic Belly-Dancers. This fuction was very well attended and seemed to have had great co-operation and participation.

E.I.S.A. (Edmonton Immigrant Services) of McKay House held a "Christmas around the World" festival on Saturday, December 14th. Several ethnic groups participated: Polynesians, East Indians, Welsh, Eritreans and Norwegians. Astrid Hope had a Norwegian Christmas display. Some groups had food for sale. The old school lobby had a packed audience for colourful, ethnic-costumed dancing by Polynesians, East Indian and Eritrean groups. Our Valhalla Dancers, well represented, did a few of their popular routines. Community carol-singing was led by Kay Gleed of the Welsh Society.

On December 20th, Gwen Legaarden went all-out to stage an authentic Norwegian Christmas dinner for about 25 Seniors at the Scona Seniors' Centre. She had a seven-course meal starting with herrings and rye bread, then salmon, caraway cabbage and potatoes. There were stacks of lefse, creamed rice pudding with the lucky almond too, rosettes and coffee and last but not least, "kringle". Astrid helped Gwen present some of the many customs at a very informal session with the seniors.

Very well done, Gwen; everthing was prepared by Gwen and her team!

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Thurs. June 26*	July 9	2 weeks	\$865	\$915	\$915	\$965	\$940	\$990
Thurs. June 26*	July 16	3 weeks	\$865	\$915	\$915	\$965	\$940	\$990
Thurs. June 26*	Aug. 06	6 weeks	\$895	\$945	\$945	\$995	\$970	\$1020
Thurs. June 26*	Aug. 20	8 weeks	\$865	\$915	\$915	\$965	\$940	\$990
Thurs. June 26*	Sept. 03**	10 weeks	\$865	\$915	\$915	\$965	\$940	\$990

* June 26 Charter departs from Calgary, connecting flight from Vancouver or Edmonton included, in above fare schedule.

Thurs. July 10*	July 16	1 week	\$765	\$815	\$815	\$865	\$840	\$890
Thurs. July 10*	Aug. 06	4 weeks	\$895	\$945	\$945	\$995	\$970	\$1020
Thurs. July 10*	Aug. 20	6 weeks	\$895	\$945	\$945	\$995	\$970	\$1020
Thurs. July 10*	Sept. 03**	8 weeks	\$865	\$915	\$915	\$965	\$940	\$990

* July 10 Charter departs from Vancouver, connecting flight from Calgary or Edmonton included, in above fare schedule.

Thurs. July 17*	Aug. 06	3 weeks	\$895	\$945	\$945	\$995	\$970	\$1020
Thurs. July 17*	Aug. 20	5 weeks	\$895	\$945	\$945	\$995	\$970	\$1020
Thurs. July 17*	Sept. 03**	7 weeks	\$865	\$915	\$915	\$965	\$940	\$990

* July 17 Charter departs from Calgary, connecting flight from Vancouver or Edmonton included, in above fare schedule.

Thurs. Aug. 07*	Aug. 20	2 weeks	\$795	\$845	\$845	\$895	\$870	\$920
Thurs. Aug. 07*	Sept. 03**	4 weeks	\$895	\$945	\$945	\$995	\$970	\$1020

* Aug. 07 Charter departs from Calgary, connecting flight from Vancouver or Edmonton included, in above fare schedule.

Thurs. Aug. 21*	Sept. 03**	2 weeks	\$865	\$915	\$915	\$965	\$940	\$990
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* Aug. 21 Charter departs from Vancouver, connecting flight from Calgary or Edmonton included, in above fare schedule.

** Sept. 03 Return flight may operate via Toronto.

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Paul Karvonen

Art and Design

The Viking period (800-1050 A.D.) was a time of expansion for Denmark, internally and abroad. Through the Viking raids Scandinavian culture spread widely and new impulses from other parts of the world came to Denmark.

In this article are shown some of characteristic objects from the period, art and everyday utensils. Examples of early Danish design...

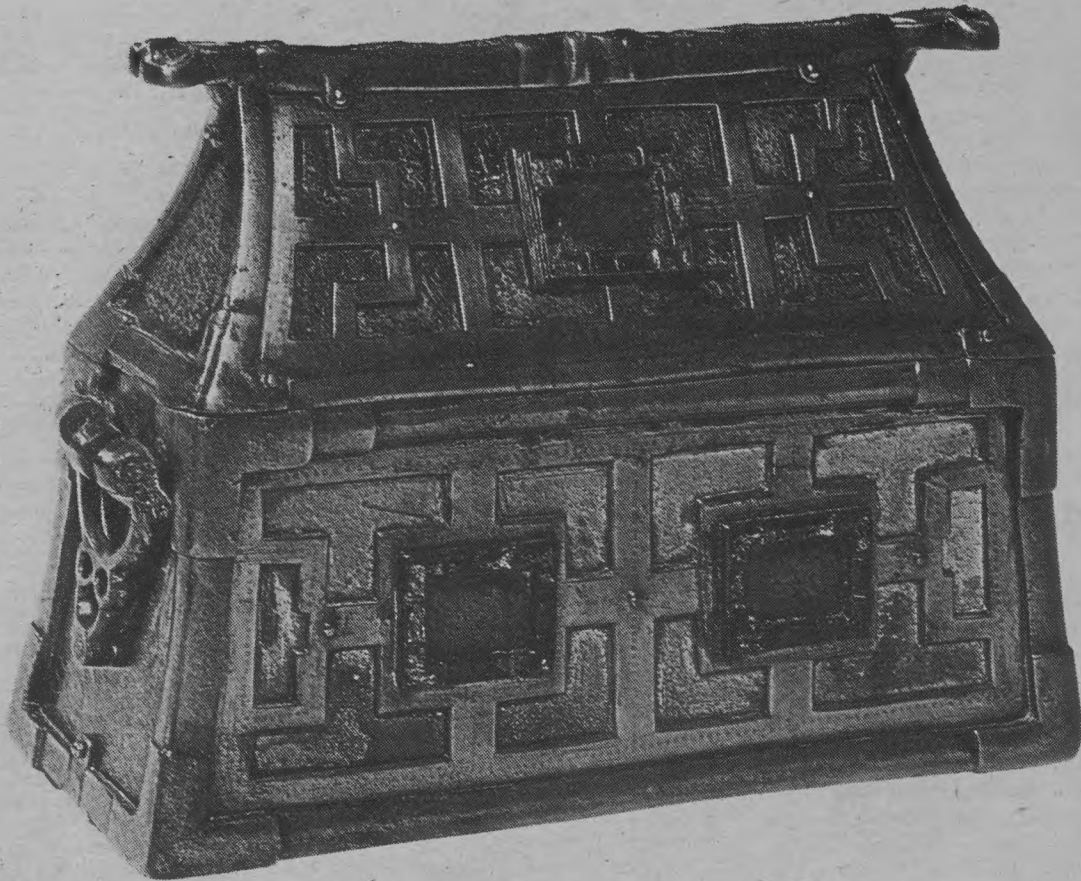
'It is through these artistic creations, their successful everyday business and their expeditions across the seas and against adversaries that the people of the Viking period reveal their individuality.'

Right:

Wooden reliquary shaped as a chest with gabled roof, its exterior clad in gilded and silver-plated bronze plates. Mounted glass and stones decorate the lid and side panels while the Celtic tracery on the reverse side shows the Irish origin of the reliquary.

Below:

Unique bronze brooch shaped as a ship with tall, curved stems capped by animal heads. Shields are suspended from the gunwale and a triangular human head sits on top of the mast. Grave find from Bornholm.



Right:

Small, stemmed silver cup from the burial chamber of the Jelling northern mound. The inside of the cup is gilded while the grooves of the animal figures on the outside were inlaid with niello, a black metal substance. The ribbon-shaped animals gave name to the popular Jelling style of the 10th century, A.D.



Above:

Richly ornamented cup of heavy, partly gilded silver from a treasure buried some time in the tenth century on the islet of Fejo north of Lolland. The birds, animals and stylized trees of the panels are framed by intertwined animals and refer the cup to the realm of the Carolingians.

Above Right:

Two splendid gold brooches from a treasure found at Hornelund in West Jutland. The circular domed plates are profusely decorated with filigree in designs which speak of both Nordic and Frankish stylistic features from the 10th century, A.D.



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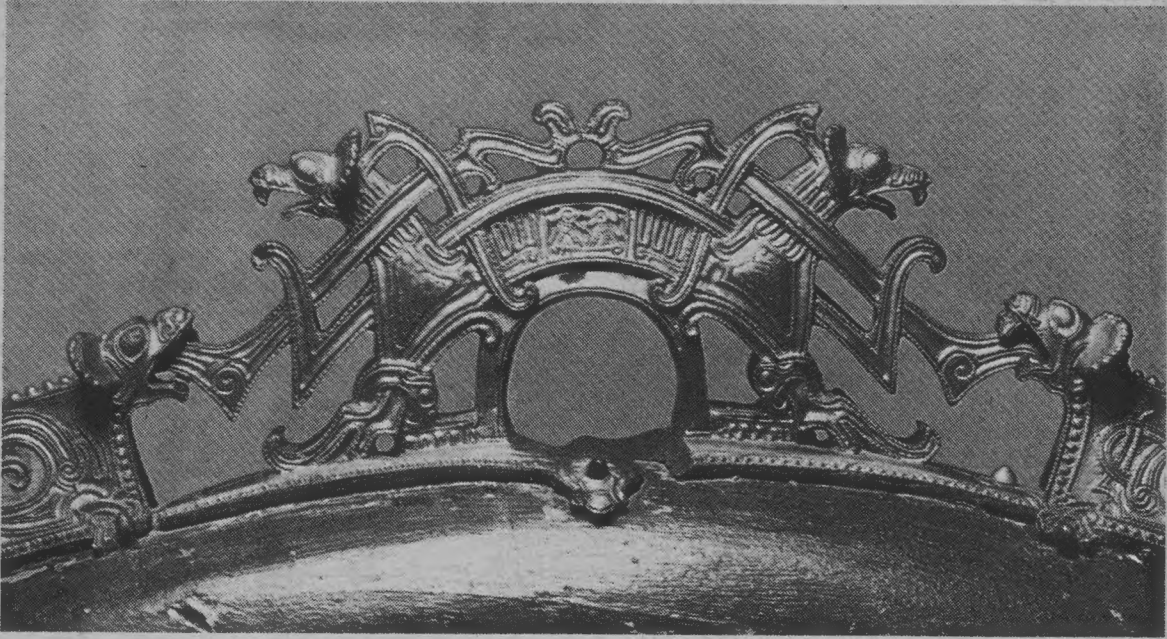
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Left:
Detail of gilded, trefoil bronze brooch from a burial site at Ladby in Funen. The decoration shows a purebred gripping beast as an element of the oldest of the art schools of the Viking age, the so-called Borre style.

Below:
Bronze pennanular brooch found at Horn in Zealand. The gilded male masks finishing the ends of the ring and the tongue are with the staring eyes reminiscent of the popular gripping beast motif of the 9th century, A.D.



Far Left:
Iron battle axe with inlaid silver-plated ornaments from a rich grave at Mammen near Viborg. The motif of the decoration is a large animal enmeshed in flourishing loops and lobes similar to the ornamentation on the large runic stone of Harald Bluetooth at Jelling.

Center:
Carved, painted wooden fragment from a piece of furniture of lattice, found in the burial chamber of the northern mound at Jelling. The original beautiful colours which also decorated the reverse side were black, red, yellow, green or blue. Middle of the 10th century, A.D.

Above
Gilded bronze fitting from the centre part of one of the two collars found at Sollested in Funen. In the aperture beneath the two small human figures between the characteristic Jelling-style animals are marks of wear left by the reins on the fitting.

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So Deep Are My Roots



Folk Dancers — 10 to 12 years

In our December issue the following was inadvertently omitted from the story on the Sons of Norway Language Camp entitled "So Deep are My Roots".

Our Ancestors

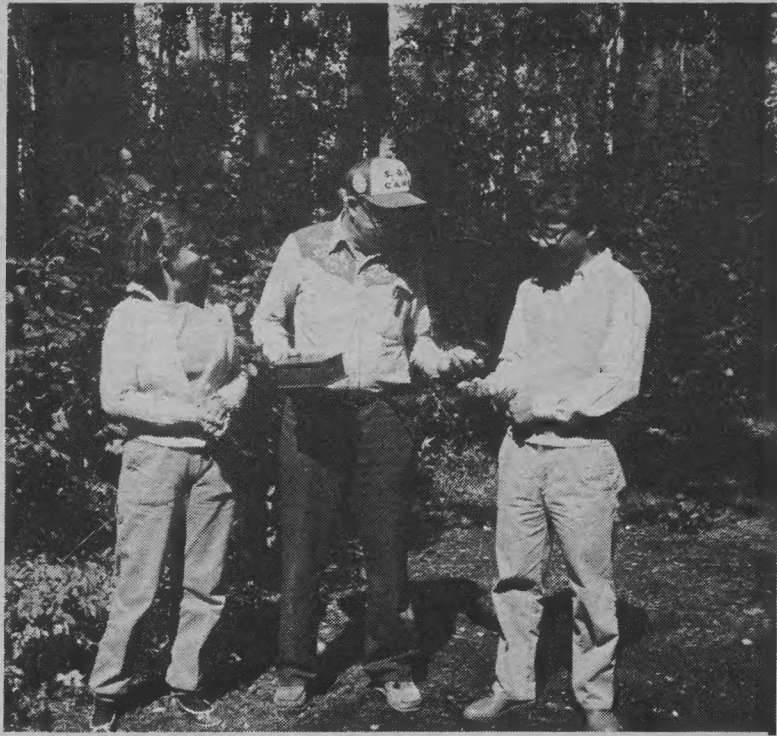
On Thursday, August 22nd, "The search goes on, Where did I come from?" Genealogy, or ancestor-hunting, ranks as the second most popular hobby — out-paced only by stamp collecting. The search is growing for missing or forgotten relatives in this country and abroad. It used to be a specialty of scholars, social climbers or retired people, but now children and grandchildren are flocking to libraries and archives to learn more of their roots.

How come all this interest? Some see it as a groping for the past as an anchor in today's turbulent, fast-

changing times. Others see it as an effort to reassert family ties by giving them new historical depth.

One genealogist has made it known that it is important to raise children with a sense of their own personal history. When each individual knows who he is and where he fits in the long and rich fabric of his family's history, he becomes protective of that family and its traditions. Gone is the sense of rootlessness that afflicts so many people today. We no longer shed our Norwegian customs, language or even our name to become Canadians.

Ethnic roots have a special interest. We want to find out "Who were my forebears? What did they do?" For some, answers can be found simply, by talking to elderly relatives who know the family legends, public libraries, Government or public archives, church records, town halls,



Harry Huser makes the presentation to Rod Hdachi and his wife

even cemeteries. For more than a few the search for ancestors is taking them to villages and towns in Norway, Europe and Africa.

It isn't all that simple to find some instant family history. In Norway, where a child's surname could be the father's name or the name of the farm — the son of Adne Larson could be Soren Adneson or Soren Larson or Soren Oftedal (name of the farm), and that is where the problem arises.

In Norway records used to be in the 20 "fylker", but since 1900 has been transferred to the Archives. There are addresses available for all areas.

In exploring the family tree there could be some very exciting or unexpected finds. There's nothing more exciting than the unravelling of a mystery—except to find some black sheep amongst ancestry. You might

find you are a descendent of Leif Erickson or even of a king, like Harald Haarfagre. Tracing your ancestors could even lead to something surprising about yourself. Your family tree could be a record for all time.

Following supper Thelma Dorin gave an interesting talk about her lineage, dating as far back as 1608. They had a "Bratrud" family reunion on August 1st, 1984, when 150 relatives gathered from Alberta, Iowa and South Dakota. Lately, more and more families assemble in the same way to get to know long lost uncles (rich or not) or cousins only heard about.

Helen Lien showed her interesting slides of those who assembled at Trollhaugen last year; it's surprising how much we can change in one year!

Swedish Sculptor Discovers Unknown Mozart Portrait

While there are many stylized pictures of the master 18th-century composer, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, only four actual portraits made of him as an adult have been known to exist—and even these are disappointing. The noted musicologist, Alfred Einstein, for example, once said: "Nothing earthly remains of him [Mozart] except for a few miserable portraits that don't resemble each other."

But a fifth portrait has been discovered, one that many believe to be the best and most revealing. It is thought, with reasonable certainty, to have been painted by Rosa Hagenauer-Barducci (who also painted Mozart's mother) in 1783, when Mozart was 27 and had not yet begun to show the signs of ill-health that led to his death at 35.

The portrait was discovered in 1980 by Torolf Engstrom, a 71-year-old Swedish sculptor who was visiting Bern, Switzerland, and spotted it in the window of an art auction when hurrying to catch a train. Engstrom was reasonably familiar with Mozart's features, having read a lot about the composer and even having entertained a boyhood dream of one day finding Mozart's lost death mask.

Thus he was immediately convinced that the man portrayed was indeed Mozart, even though the label read: "Portrait of an unknown young man". He made a meager bid, left all the money he had left in his pocket and ran to his train.

Three weeks later, back in Stockholm he called Bern and learned to his joy that the portrait was his and would be posted to him.

It then became Engstrom's task to determine who had painted the portrait and when—and whether the portrait really was of Mozart. The task took two years of labourious, painstaking sleuthing in libraries and other institutions in Sweden, Austria and West Germany.

If you look closely at the portrait you will notice that Mozart appears to be slightly cross-eyed. This is taken as a reason for the composer's documented reluctance to pose for head-on portraits. Only two (the earliest) of the previously known portraits show all of both eyes.

Physiognomic and anatomical studies of the portrait have led one Swedish medical expert to suggest that the cross-eyed condition was not congenital but the result of scar-tissue formation in the eye musculature following a bout of smallpox.

Evidence that Hagenauer actually painted the portrait is dramatically reinforced by seeing the result of Engstrom's superimpositions of the portrait on the earlier one of his mother.

The "new" Mozart portrait measures 15 by 22 centimeters and is contained in a gold frame. Engstrom feels the frame is too small but insists on keeping it because of its own historic value. Both portrait and frame are currently in Engstrom's safe-deposit box. True copies hang in his own apartment.

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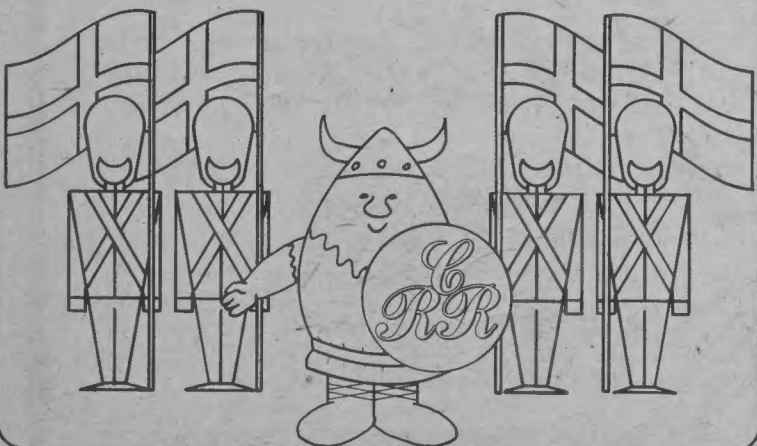
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Solglyt Spotlight

Coming Events

January 7th: Torske Klubben Supper meeting at the Saxony Inn
January 13th: Meeting of Old and New Executive members and spouses at McKay House.
January 13th: Lutefisk Supper and Installation of Officers at Saxony Inn.
February 21-23: Winter Games held at Grande Prairie.
February 8th: Torske Klubben sponsoring Birkebeiner Ski Race.
June 25-28: 4th District Convention at Fargo, N.D.
August 17-23: (Third week in August) Norwegian Language and Culture Camp.

Lutefiske Dinner

By Bob Burt
The Annual Lutefisk Supper and Installation of the New Executive of Solglyt Lodge was held January 18th at the Saxony Inn.
Members of the new executive included: President - Kris Nyhus; Vice-President - Betty Broen; Councelor -Wally Broen; Secretary - Selma Hyde; Financial Secretary - Stan Johnson; Treasurer - John Stensland; Cultural Director - Anny Marie Waldmo; Assistant Cultural Director - Astrid Hope; Social Director - Selma Sorenson; Sports Director - Peter Finstad; Trustees - Norm Legaarden, Sev Berge and Ken Domier; Historian - A. Janette Burt; Publicity - Bob Burt; Marshall - Reidun Berg; Assistant - Goldie Borge; Newsletter - Louise Johnson. Auditors include David Borge, Bernie Olafson and Al Letendre.

New and Old Executive Meet

By Bob Burt
A meeting on Monday, January 13th, at McKay House included the members of the old and new executives with their spouses. This gathering, an annual function, is held to discuss the progress planned for the coming year; 1986 looks to be a busy time for the members of Sons of Norway's Solglyt Lodge.

Allan and Laura Anderson celebrated Christmas in Saskatchewan with her folks.

Sev and Rose Berge were on the go through Christmas; spent some time at the coast, and some time in Winterburn. Their daughter spent her holiday skiing in the Kelowna area; the Domiers and Berges settled for New Years Supper and a game o Grib.

Goldie and Dave Borge were on the last plane to Victoria before the Big Fog Dec. 21st and were able to spend Christmas with her parents before returning home after Christmas.

Elsworth and Lois Halberg, after their retirement, took off for a 7-week vacation in Australia and New Zealand, returning Dec. 15th. They visited relatives, had a great time, and were the envy of all their friends.

Thor and Reidun Berg spent Christmas and New Years in Hawaii.

Mr. and Mrs. Les Finch entertained friends and relatives over Christmas, several from as far away as Newbrasca, N.D. For Christmas it was open house with 30 guests attending.

Stan and Louise Johnson were very busy over the Christmas season. Both had attended University courses and exams. For Christmas Stan's father visited. Both Stan and Louise participated in cross-country skiing in January. Stan participated in a Net Fishing Derby at Buck Lake early in January.

Ole Hovind wasn't well over Christmas and New Years, but is doing fine now. He plans to lead his Ski Journey into Skoke March 28-30.

Kare Hellum went on a ski outing in the Kananaskis Country with friends, finishing off the old year with some excellent weather, snow and cross-country ski enjoyment.

Sig and Selma Sorenson spent Christmas and New Years with their daughter Sharon in Toronto, where she is attending University. Sig and Selma returned to Edmonton early in January.

Sig was appointed Representative to sign up new members for Sons of Norway, and handle insurance in the Edmonton Area.

Finnish Footnotes

By Anne Sahuri
The annual Christmas parties for both adults and children went well. Thank you to all who helped in any way — special thanks to everyone who brought items for the bazaar. During the Adult Christmas party several people were honoured by presentations of honorary certificates for long-time service in the Finnish Society of Edmonton. Pentti Sipari presented the certificates to Toini Virtanen, Sirkka Ristola, Arvo Ruuth, and Vilho Ristola.
And as a surprise to our long-time president, Pentti Sipari received one which was presented to him by John Sahuri who mentioned Pentti's hard

and diligent work within the Society and on behalf of the Finnish Society as well. This presentation was met by a standing ovation. Ritva Haikarainen assisted in both presentations. Congratulations are extended to all recipients.

Several road-clearing expeditions have been made to Fork Lake since last fall, but there is still a lot to be done. If you are interested and willing to work please phone either Pentti Sipari at 462-7261 or Pasi Karsten at 432-1981.

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Canadian Multiculturalism Council Annual General Meeting

Ottawa — The Canadian Multiculturalism Council (CMC) whose 64 members represent the aspirations of the 3.8 million Canadians who are neither French, English nor of Native descent concluded its Nov. 15-17 annual meeting here buoyed by the feeling that a new awareness of the country's multicultural/multiracial society lies ahead.

The CMC heard from Multiculturalism Minister Otto Jelinek who said he wanted the next 12 months to double from 10 to 20 per cent the number of ethnic appointments to federal boards and commissions.

Mr. Jelinek added that personally he would not be satisfied until the number of ethnic appointments reached 30 per cent, a figure roughly equivalent to the number of Canadians of origin other than French, English or Native.

He also announced that since half of the country's small businesses were run by members of Canada's ethnocultural communities, he was planning a major conference for spring 1986 to encourage an even greater development in this area.

During its three days of plenary ses-

sions, workshops and regional and executive meetings, the CMC passed a number of resolutions. Foremost among them was one recommending a policy of redress for the wartime internment of Japanese Canadians.

The CMC, which advises the Government of Canada through the Minister of State for Multiculturalism, defined a redress policy as being symbolic in terms of monetary award. It said it should be directed more toward the prevention of future wrongs upon any ethnocultural group rather than a correction of past injustices. The CMC resolution also called for the establishment of a Multiculturalism Foundation as part of the Japanese Canadian redress policy and the building of a multicultural centre and a senior citizens home.

The resolution noted that the placement of monetary value upon human suffering and deprivation would not only be unrealistic but impossible.

"Placing of a present monetary value on past material loss occurring more than 40 years ago would place an impossible burden upon many Canadian taxpayers who were not yet born when the past injustices occurred," said the resolution.

Dr. Gus Mitges, chairperson of the recently formed House of Commons Standing Committee on Multiculturalism told the CMC that the committee was there as a forum for issues of concern to ethnocultural communities, individuals and allied groups.

He said anyone who wanted to get their views known simply had to write to the standing committee's steering committee, care of the House of Commons.

Dr. Mitges emphasized that the committee's mandate was to encourage and monitor the implementation of the principles of multiculturalism policy throughout the Government of Canada.

Another speaker was Douglas Bowie, Assistant Under Secretary of State for Multiculturalism. Mr. Bowie listed statistics from public opinion surveys taken in 1980 and 1985 which showed a noticeable increase in public awareness on multiculturalism. He noted the 1985 figures showed that 81 per cent of Canadians polled were aware of multiculturalism and that 76 per cent of them thought it was a good thing.

The Finns have many claims to international fame—the sauna, magnificent forests which cover 64% of the country, and 60,000 lakes. But they have been slow to promote one of their greatest resources, *suomalaisia herkkuja*, or Finnish cuisine.

Happily, a trio of Finnish bon vivants—Matti Viherjuuri of the Finnish Gastronomic Academy, columnist Juha Tanttu and his wife Anna-Maija, a home economist and food writer, have compiled a 62-page "Finlandia Gastronomica" to inform the English-speaking world about their meat, fish, mushrooms, berries and barley bread.

Humorously written and beautifully illustrated, the book has been published by Otava Press in Helsinki, and is now in its third edition. It is an invaluable guide to Finnish food.

The Finns live close to the land and their menus reflect the changing seasons. According to "Gastronomica", spring is the time for stuffed pike, baked bream, fresh salted whitefish, salted salmon, salmon in rice pastry or any fish *en papillote*.

In the summer, "when the night is white," the guide says, a main attrac-

tion is new potatoes to go with Atlantic herring brought in by Finnish trawlers from the much-disputed North Sea waters. A must with this is fresh dill.

Fall is mushroom time and, the authors report, you are likely to find more Finns than mushrooms in the woods. There are some 500 edible species in the Scandinavian woods, 200 of them in the delicacy class.

Game, including reindeer, venison, hare and ptarmigan, are fall menu favorites.

Fall is also the time for crayfish, which are boiled in salted water with dill and eaten cold. A professor of theology, the guide points out, has written a book listing no less than 200 recipes for Baltic herring.

In the winter, the authors say, a phenomenon known as "Arctic hysteria" occurs, and the only known remedy, in Finland and in Sweden, is generous slices of salted, boiled ham with plenty of mustard.

The drink of the season is glogg, a strong, hot mix of red wine, brandy and spices.

No Scandinavian treatise on gastronomy would be complete without a discourse on the smorgasbord—*voileipapöytä* in Finnish—and the authors have come up with 58 items for a real smorgasbord. After browsing around this buffet, the diner is supposed to go on to "substantial" things such as Karelian stew.

In the book, the section on the Finnish culinary year is followed by a brief collection of recipes related to famous Finns. One such is Sibelius' Steak—"a steak tartar with pickles, beets, diced onions, capers and egg yolk. Divide the steak into two. Eat one half raw and send the other half back to the kitchen to be broiled. You get a hot dish as well as a cold one."

Finland's Marshal Mannerheim was a well-known gourmet—and very finicky to boot, reports "Gastronomica". His glass of schnapps could not be filled any which way. It had to be filled to the brim. And woe be to the officer at his table whose hand was not as steady as the marshal's. The marshal introduced several dishes into the Finnish menu. The most famous is a special delicacy just right as an appetizer or evening snack, *vorshmack*, originally imported from Poland. Grind a kilo of cooked roast lamb and a couple of soaked herring filets and two fried onions. Add the lamb roasting juices or bouillon and cook the mixture until thick and the liquid has evaporated. Season with tomato puree or ketchup, mustard, white pepper and perhaps a few anchovies. Serve with sour cream and diced pickles and beets. You can also use *vorshmack* to fill crepes or an omelet.

And finally, "Gastronomica" lists Kekkonen's Chowder, a specialty of the Kainuu district where the President of Finland lived as a young boy. Dice peeled potatoes and put them into hot water. Add quartered onions, a bay leaf, whole allspice and salt. Cook the potatoes until almost done. Add large pieces of fish; salmon, whitefish or turbot, and dabs of butter. Cook until the fish is done. If you like, thicken the soup Kainuu-style with a bit of rye flour, or leave it clear. Sprinkle with plenty of diced dill and chives. Serve and let each person add finely-chopped onions and melted butter.



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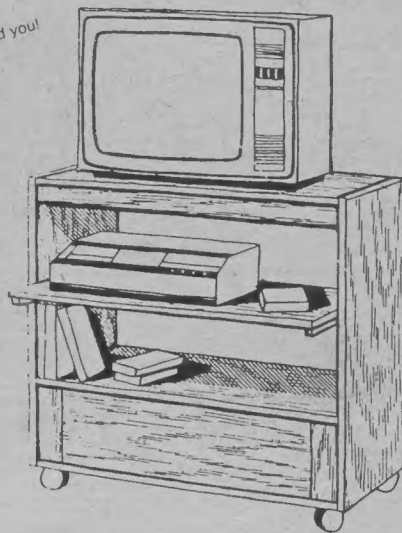


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Torske Klubben

Home Heating Major Topic

By Bob Burt

The first Supper Meeting of Torske Klubben for 1986 was most interesting and informative.

Well over 50 members and guests gathered at the Saxony Inn Jan. 7th to enjoy hospitality, friendship and a great meeting.

Glogg (a hot drink including wine, brandy, sherry, raisins and nuts) had been prepared by Keith Lillevolden, our Social Convener, the night before and it was served hot. It was a good mix and many returned for more & more & more.

The group sat to a feast of black cod, carrots and boiled potatoes. Through the meal akvavit was served and many toasts were sung out.

Following the most enjoyable meal, the birthday boys were toasted. A report was given on the Trollhaugen Language & Cultural Camp indicating that there was to be no involvement in land purchase, and that the Camp for this year was booked for the same location.

A report was given on the result of the 2-day Casino held in January. Al Letendre reported that a profit of over \$25,000.00 was realized, business now finalized. He stated that an application has been made to participate in another go in 1986.

Sports Director Peter Finstad stated that the Winter Games will be held Feb. 21-23 at Grande Prairie. Hotel accommodation may be obtained through a toll free call. He encouraged members to participate in curling, bowling, skiing or Norwegian Whist. A Charter Bus may be used if necessary. The entry fee is \$35.00 for participants, which covers the activity & banquets, ACCOMMODATION AND EXTRA MEALS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

Ken Domier introduced the Guest Speaker, Prof. Doug Dale, who spoke on an engineering study on 'Heating a Home'. With a six-house experiment, heat loss was meticulously recorded. Tests on insulation, walls, windows, basement and floor heat loss, as well as vapor barriers were recorded. The experiment also included brick structure and fiberglass, foam and solid insulation, also airlock in and out, as well as shutters, high efficiency furnaces (electric & gas) and solar heat. It was found that one can over-

insulate to obtain low-cost heating (insulating cost greater than fuel costs). He stated that solar heating is not economical in the Edmonton area due to installation costs and the need for storage being excessive. To be involved in high-performance windows is again expensive, but it works better than shutters. There doesn't seem to be a price rise due to wind change.

The experiments served only to establish building codes for construction, not building codes for Canada. He stated that heat loss through windows and opening doors certainly made the difference, but on the other hand it was not advisable to have a home sealed completely. He concluded that one should insulate as much as one can bear. Homes are heated 2/3 by the furnace and 1/3 by other means. He stated that coal is the cheapest source of heat supply.

Following his talk, many questions were answered concerning improved methods, insulation, etc. This type of talk is beneficial to all members and is appreciated. Gary Johnson thanked Dr. Dale for his talk, and presented him with two Torske Klubben mugs as a memento.

Other speakers included Sig Sorenson on Liability Insurance; Kris Nyhus on the activities coming up in Sons of Norway. Kare Askildt mentioned various ski activities coming up (The Salute to Cross Country Jan. 18 & 19th) He noted the Birkebeiner Race coming Feb. 8th, and spoke of the responsibility of Torske members.

Gorden Torgness, Nels and Harry Mjaatveit were initiated to membership in Torske Klubben. Al Letendre and Don Sjolie were presented elk-horn carved articles by Harry Huser for their excellent work at the Casino. Next Torske Klubben meeting will be held Feb. 4th.

Another Year of Success

By Bob Burt

Torske Klubben Ladies' Night is looked forward to for half a year, and this year was no exception. There were over 100 in attendance on Dec. 7th, and all thoroughly enjoyed the noise, activities and frivolity. The meal was — as usual — 'the best yet'! Each lady was presented with a corsage when she arrived.

Following the meal Betty Broen introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. Bettie Hewes. Mrs. Hewes is the former chairman of C.N. Railway; she also spent 10 years as a City of Edmonton Alderman (2 years on the budget). In 1980 she received the Alberta Award for Achievement. She received the Liberal nomination in Gold Bar and will run in the next Provincial election.

In her talk, she covered a wide range of subjects. She spoke of the 'Good old Days', the Churches, the World in General, National Freedoms, culture, disaster, medicine and space nuclear war. She even covered purification of water and food problems of needy nations. She also covered world society and religion, child abuse, babies and health. She mentioned Women's suffrage and Emily Murphy with the recognition of women in 1929. Sig Sorenson thanked Mrs. Hewes and presented her with several Torske Klubben mugs as a memento of the occasion.

An election of Officers followed. Bos Kare Hellum was re-named Bos for 1986. In accepting he expressed the need for working together to achieve success. He said that membership enjoyed the richness of the Ethnic groups (Norwegians in general).

Doug Peterson, Roald Enockson and Vern Steinbru were named Directors of the Club. Don Sjolie will continue to hold office of Treasurer and Al Letendre Secretary. Keith Lillevolden was named Social Convener. Another year of continued success is in store.

Casino Sponsored by Torske

Torske Klubben members sponsored a two-day Casino Jan. 3 and 4th; 59 members volunteered to help. The project included 2 nine-hour shifts each day to learn the rules and responsibilities of the floor. The jobs ranged through Cashiers, Managers, stackers, chip fillers and runners. Chip runners carried chips to each of the gaming tables when required; cashiers paid off winners when they

wished to cash in. The banker and managers were involved in counting the cash and checking slips. They also wrote cheques to pay the floor staff and rentals.

The first day's proceeds had paid expenses for both days (\$17,000) by 6 p.m. It is expected that the Language Camp and others will benefit from the labours of those volunteers on the floor.

SunLife Sponsors Birkebeiner Race

The Canadian Birkebeiner Cross Country Ski Race this year will start Saturday Feb. 8th at 9:00 a.m. from the Westridge Lodge (North of Devon), and will finish at Fort Edmonton Park 185 Street.

The 55 km race is co-ordinated by Torske Klubben together with many other Ski Associations. Trophies and prizes will be presented at the banquet Saturday evening at the Northland Pavilion. Tickets for the banquet might be obtained from Kare Askildt or at the door. Members wishing to help at the race are asked to contact Les Finch at 478-4440.

The Men's Canadian Birkebeiner

consists of men racing 55 km cross country carrying 12 pound packs. The race is split into age groups 20-29; 30-39; 40-50; 50-59 and under 20. Ladies have the same categories.

The LIGHT BIRKEBEINER is the same race and distance, but without the pack.

Members of Sons of Norway will be situated near the end of the race and will assist if racers are in trouble, to hand a blanket to each finisher or to serve hot or cold drinks to the participants.

The Ladies' Trophy has been donated by Torske Klubben.

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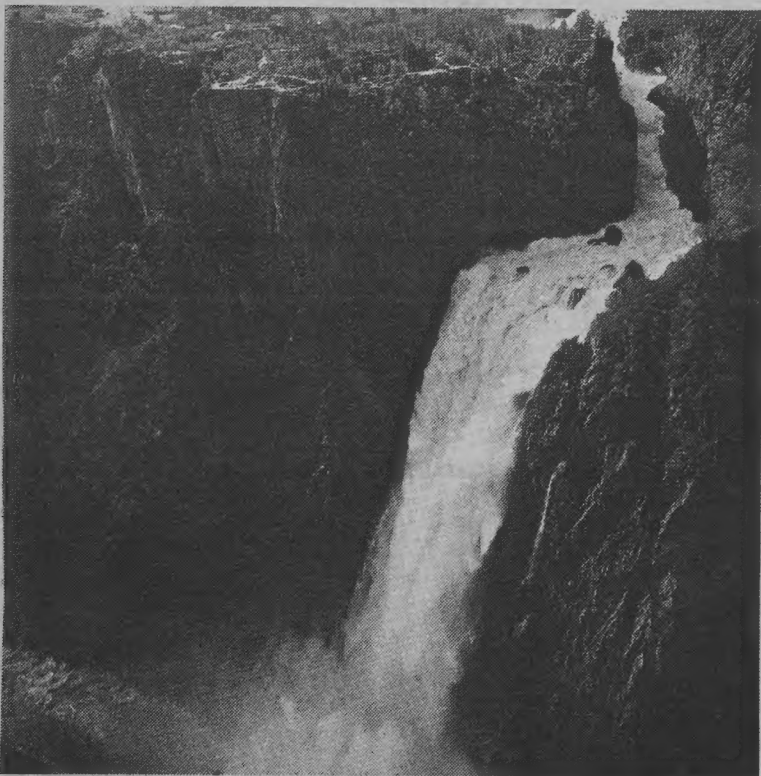
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Beautiful Norway

Cabin Fever

(If applicable, read she instead of he)

By Anne Sahuri

An outdoors person who also likes to go camping, and especially if he owns a cabin, most often has cabin fever as well.

That kind of a person deserves all the respect and wonder that we can offer as well as our condolences and good wishes, for he endures all kinds of things and therefore suffers a lot.

His head is always clear, his back is always strong and his patience is stretched like a violin string. He can do just about anything if necessary; he seems to be water-resistant and shock-proof, and he always bounces back to his original self no matter what happens.

Because of all those qualities he may survive the summer and come back to the city with the enthusiasm he left with, and recharge if necessary before the next summer begins out at the cabin.

The person with cabin fever is a constant optimist and he never believes in the reality of things. He believes in beautiful hot summers, constant sunshine, and tomorrow is always better than today. This makes him forget experiences like cold nights, wet clothes, bee stings, wind burns (as well as sunburns), small cuts acquired while cleaning fish, sprains and back-aches, hunger and loneliness. He will dwell instead on the few hot summer days and he will remember the rare warm nights and the fantastic sunset he saw two

weeks ago. He will tell you about the romantic bonfires and lively sing-songs, and about the colourful birds and playful squirrels and the perfumy smell of spring flowers.

The five pound jackfish that was finally caught after the summer was just about over, becomes a huge monster of a fish weighing at least twenty pounds. The food eaten (and sometimes lack of it) becomes gourmet cooking even though sometimes the barbecue was left unattended resulting in burned steaks. Cold swims in not-so-hot Canadian summers translate into floating in a spa, and the seemingly endless and almost always boring card games with the whole family inside a packed cabin, while the rain is pelting down and the wind is howling outside, are like pleasant little neighbourhood parties.

Stuffy and hot car rides to and from the cabin, and city traffic jams, are soon forgotten; so are the problems with the outboard motor, broken ski-tow ropes, and the noisy scooters that people use nearby the cabin. Forgotten are the numerous trips carrying groceries and other useful items from car to cabin which made the arms seem like they had stretched at least six inches during the summer. The sudden extra money-spending and cranky, crying children seem to make all this an even better adventure.

And so the person with cabin fever is always ready for another adventure on the arrival of another spring. ■

Genetic Features of Cats New Evidence for Vikings in America

From "News from Iceland"

An unusual piece of evidence may have been found to support the theory that Norsemen not only discovered America, as attested by Old Icelandic historical sources describing the country named "Wineland" but also established a permanent settlement there with the age-old symbol of domestic bliss — the family cat.

An Icelandic geneticist, Dr. Stefan Adalsteinsson, teamed up with American scientist Bennett Blumenberg to investigate varieties in the cat population of Iceland, other Nordic countries, Britain and the U.S.A. Interestingly, preliminary research showed that cats in Reykjavik are more closely related to those of Britain than to the Scandinavian

type, suggesting a high level of cross-breeding. Rural cats in Iceland, however, bear the unmistakable genetic stamp of their mainland Nordic counterparts.

Detailed information on cat types was fed into a computer and subjected to what is known as discriminant analysis, whereby the classification of data into groups is investigated and if necessary rearranged. The computer made no attempt to reclassify a type of cat found in Boston and New York when it was grouped according to genetic features with those from the original areas of Viking settlement.

To the scientists' surprise, the computer regrouped the Boston and New York variety in a further test, taking it

out of the area of early British colonization and placing it unquestionably in the Viking category. A tenable theory based on these findings is that Nordic cats from a possible Viking settlement in North America lived wild in a particular area and for centuries mated with tame females brought in by colonists, while defending their territory from encroachment by "foreign" males. The genetic traits of the original Nordic cats could then have passed into and come to dominate the tame stock in the region.

No clear evidence of long-term Viking settlements in North America has yet been found. Rhode Island is the only possible origin for a lump of anthracite found in the Nordic settlement Sandnes on Greenland's west coast, and a coin dating from the reign of Olaf the Quiet (1067-1099) was found at Penobscot, Maine, but both these items could conceivably have been transported by indigenous peoples.

Ruins discovered at L'Ainse aux Meadows in Newfoundland have proved that an attempt to settle in the New World was made, but proof of domesticated animals being kept would be the first evidence that a permanent colony was actually established. ■

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